

11 April 2006

MEMORANDUM

From: Aerospace Optometrist, Naval Hospital Lemoore
To: NH Lemoore Providers and Flight Surgeons

SUBJ: SUSPENSION OF RENU CONTACT LENS SOLUTION

1. Please pass to all NH Lemoore Providers, Flight Surgeons, and Medical Personnel.
2. A rise in eye infections in Asia and the United States due to fungus has recently been noted by the Center for Disease Control (C.D.C.). There is a questionable connection between these infections (Fungal Keratitis- F.K.) and the use of a contact lens cleaning solution made by Bausch and Lomb known as RENU.
3. Bausch and Lomb has stopped producing the product until more is known concerning this connection. The C.D.C. and the Food and Drug Administration are continuing to monitor this issue, and will inform the public as further information is available.
4. Direction needs to be issued to operational forces who are contact lens wearers.
 - a. If personnel are using this product, and have access to an alternative product, they should switch to the alternative. (examples: Complete, AOSEPT, Opti-Free, etc.)
 - b. Anyone unable to obtain an alternative due to operational situations, should continue to use RENU until an alternative can be obtained, but follow all instructions below.
 - c. The following are appropriate contact lens instructions for use with any solution:
 - Do not sleep in your contact lenses.
 - Wash your hands before you insert or remove your contacts.
 - Carefully and regularly clean contact lenses, as directed by an optometrist and the patient information included with lens care products.
 - Rub the contact lenses with fingers and rinse thoroughly before soaking the lenses overnight in enough multi-purpose solution to completely cover the lens.
 - Store lenses in the proper case and replace the lens storage case quarterly.
 - Clean the contact lens case after each use and keep the case open and dry between cleanings.
 - Use the proper products to clean and disinfect contact lenses as recommended by your optometrist. Remember that saline solutions and rewetting drops are not designed to disinfect lenses.
 - Only fresh solution should be used to clean and disinfect contact lenses.
 - Never re-use old solution. Contact lens solution must be changed every day, even if the lenses are not used daily.
 - d. The primary symptoms of F.K. are pain, redness, foreign body sensation, and photophobia. If contact lens wearers (using this product or any other cleaning solution) experience any of these symptoms, they should remove their lenses, and report immediately to their local Optometrist, Ophthalmologist or flight surgeon. It is unlikely that F. K. will develop without the above symptoms being noted by the patient.
 - e. While 100% screening is not recommended at this time by the C.D.C., utilization of the above lens care techniques is advised as the best preventative measures.
 - f. If a F.K. is suspected, immediately contact the appropriate eye-care provider for instruction and coverage.
 - g. Appropriate web sites for review are:
<http://www.bausch.com/us/vision/about/news/pressrelease.jsp?pressRelease=2006>

[_4_10_reports.html](#),
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm55d410a1.htm>,
<http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01354.html>

- h. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me via email or my office line at 2925.

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